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APR 25 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Alexander S. Kozlov, et al.

Docket: H16-26603

Serial Number: 09/611,182

Group Art Unit: 1762

Filed: July 6, 2000

Examiner: M. Barr

For: ELECTROLESS PLATINUM-RHODIUM ALLOY PLATING

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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EXAMINER : M. Barr
GROUP : 1762

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed January 28, 2003, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7, 9-21, 23, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over JP 58204169 (Torikai, et al) in view of Chang et al. (U.S. patent 5,980,345).

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over JP 58204169 (Torikai, et al) in view of Chang et al. (U.S. patent 5,980,345) and further in view of Ishihara et al. (U.S. patent 5,032,694). It is respectfully submitted that these grounds of rejection are incorrect and should be withdrawn.

This application claims a composition and process for electroless plating of a platinum-rhodium alloy onto substrates. The claimed composition comprises an